Troy, May 3, 1846

Dear Father,

We arrived in Schenectady about 1/2 past eight Saturday morning - Lavina stood the journey first rate. I saw her and Francis in the Ballston Cars and start before I started - and I arrived here about half past ten. I have been about among the lumber dealers some here and at Albany. All kinds of lumber are selling here about the same prices as last season except box boards are doing better from the fact they are scarce. Grant Coffin & Church are selling box boards at about $13. Sanford of Albany told me they could sell a good lot at $14 if they had them, but you can't contract for any lumber a week ahead but just now there seems to be more confidence than there was four days since. I told some of the lumbermen what Axtells lot could be had for but they do not want it at the price.

Our boat started back last Wednesday without any up freight, will probably be at our landing on Tuesday. Clark & Shepherds other boat has not put in yet but Clark told me last evening he expected it in hourly and started for Schenectady to ascertain about her. I bought a few [], a few pieces of factory cloth, a little wicking twine batting, a few pieces of [] stuff, a few hats (chip) to go up by Clarks boat, and I intend to leave here for New York this evening. Shall probably be gone four or five days. Flour is continually falling off, good lumber is selling at $4.75. James [] is at home and out well.

Yours truly,
Hiram Merriman

HM to JM
May 3, 1846